

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 140744

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IO/UNESCO:MR. O'BRIEN

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R 282156Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS STATE 140744

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH

SUBJECT: EXPORTATION OF THAI ART OBJECTS

NEWS DAY HAS QUERIED THE DEPARTMENT RE RTG OFFICIAL ATTITUDE TOWARD THE EXPORTATION OF THAI ART OBJECTS, MANY OF WHICH WIND UP IN AMERICAN COLLECTIONS. NEWSDAY WAS SPECIFICALLY INTERESTED IN THAI POSITION ON A LINTEL FROM PHANOM RUNG NOW REPORTEDLY LOCATED IN CHICAGO AND THE SO-CALLED PRAKANCHAI BRONZES, SEVERAL OF WHICH ARE IN VARIOUS U. S. COLLECTIONS. WE RESPONDED THAT WE WERE UNAWARE OF ANY OFFICIAL THAI UNHAPPINESS ALTHOUGH OVER THE YEARS A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS AND THE PRESS HAD OCCASIONALLY EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE WITH THE RAPE OF THAI ART TREASURES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER OR NOT THE RTG HAS MADE ANY DEMARCHES TO US OR UNESCO ON THIS MATTER. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE KNOWING THE NAMES OF THOSE THAI WHO HAVE BEEN MOST OUTSPOKEN ON THE SUBJECT. SISCO

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 28 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, TH, US
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